



THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

12 DEC 1996

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Honorable Federico Peña
Secretary of Transportation
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Thank you for your recent letter reporting on the Department of Transportation's (DOT) success in establishing the Maritime Security Program (MSP). I note that our staffs have recently agreed on the selection of 47 militarily-useful vessels to be entered into the new program.

The United States Transportation Command will be my representative to DOT for subsequent implementation and administration of the MSP, in coordination with the Joint Staff and my staff.

I greatly appreciate the continuing efforts of your staff and the Maritime Administration to support the Department of Defense in meeting national defense requirements.

Sincerely,

William J. Perry